The Times-Dispatch.

Published Daily and Weekly

At No. 4 North Tenth Street, Richmond, Va. Entered Janyary 27, 1903, at Richmond, Va. as second-class matter, under Act of Congress of March S,

The DAILY TIMES DISPATCH IS sold

The SUNDAY TIMES-DISPATCH IS sold at 5 cents a copy.

The DAILY TIMES-DISPATCH, including Sunday, in Richmond and Manchester, by carrier, 12 cents per week or

THE TIMES-DISPATCH, Richmond, Va.

| BY MAIL | Cone | Six | Three | Daily, with Sunday | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | Bunday edition only.... 2.06 | 1.00 | Weekly (Wednesdays)... | 1.00 | 50 | All Unsigned Communications

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Up-Town Office at T. A. Miller's, No. 519 East Broad Street.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 1904,

Who Is for the Primary?

Public opinion in Virginia is of slow growth, but when it is once rooted and grounded, it is a force that must with. This characteristic of Virginia people has been strikingly exemplified in the development of popular demand for some efficient and workable primary law. The need for a change in the method of nomination was at first only dimly comprehended by the public, the ever lessening power of the individual, unorganized voter to express his wishes effectively, has made the necessity radical change apparent to even the casual wayfarer on the road of politics.

At first the bamboozied public, though chafing under the restraint of dictated nominations, accepted the glib explanations which were cheerfully, offered to adventurous questioners who demanded better methods for determining the people's will. Those day are now The public will no longer be satisfied with explanations; it demands changed methods, and what is more, it knows what changes are necessary.

Senator Fulton, of Warren, summer whole question up when he said "The failure to enact a primary law is right to legally express their preferences for the men they want to serve them in public office." A few years ago the proposed by Sinator Fulton would have been argued; to-day it is argued on one side and smothered on To-day the people of Virginia of expressing their choice for the men ant in public office, in such a way as to make that expression of choice ef-The people are satisfied that nd precinct mass-meetings are failures and that primaries without the force of law, to say nothing of the viva sthod of voting, are too objectionable to be any real solution for the difficulty. The people also know that been a persistent and so far successful attempt on the part of the personal adherents of Senator Martin to

knowledge of this attempt, and any decumstances to the position occupied by Senator Martin, he cannot escape the responsibilities of leadership or the duties of a public servani.

Senator Martin is not and cannot be blind to the urgent and widespread demand throughout this State for a primary law. His acknowledged position as leader of a numerous and powerful contingent places him under the duty of Virginia.

To their question: "What is your attitude on the primary?" It will not do for the senator to say, "I will ablde by the ruling of the Democratic party and take my chance under the party's plan, whatever it may be.". For the great unorganized public may well answer "Your position and power can largely determine what the Democratic party of Virginia will do. And in order that we may know how to act for own best interests, we ask again, Are you personally in favor of the primary?' for he who is not for it, is against it."

The issue has reached a point which well makes it incumbent on every public official to distinctly and unequivocally declare his position on the primary.

Senator Barksdale has spoken with no uncertain sound, and now the people of Virginia require of Senator Martin a like declaration-not whether he will by the ruling of the Democratic party. aid in giving Virginia such a primary law as the needs and intelligence of the people demand.

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It Is Now Up to the Convention. Because the last Legislature falled to enact a State primary election law, it does not by any means follow that the primary plan of selecting candidates is in disfavor or that it will be defeated by the next State convention. On the contrary, the friends of the primary plan are stronger and the encinies of the primary plan are weaker than either side would have been had the Legislature enacted an objectionable law. It is now for the friends of the primer.

of the convention for further revision. and then taken up by the convention and finally adopted before adjournment. This would be more satisfactory, doubtless, o the voters at large than to have the convention simply express itself in favor of the principle, leaving the details to be afterwards worked out by the State Committee.

ent plan, notably the viva voce method of voting. We understand that Chairman Ellyson, while personally in favor of viva voce voting, is satisfied that it s objectionable to the voters at large, o the ballot system. The chief objection in viva voce voting is in its relation to ocal contests, where the candidates are table of some shelk or governor. for voters do not like to express publictheir choice as between friends. But his objection would largely disappear bject to expressing publicly their choice of candidates for Governor or for United States senator. It may be, therefore, that he party will adopt a sort of compromise and have viva voce voting in State conests and ballot voting in local contests This, however, presupposes that the

present general plimary election law cannot, as some lawyers contend, be made to apply. But it has not been so decided by any competent authority. Nor has it been determined whether or not the general statute provides for payment of the expenses of primary elections by the government. The only way to ascertain is to make up a test case on both points and carry it to the courts, and it seems to us that that ought to be done at the earliest practicable moment. We shall then know just where we stand and the political parties will govern themselves juestion is up in the air and in doubt. If the general primary law now in force can be made to apply so as to throw around primary elections all the safeguards of the law as they relate to regular ejections, it will be all the law

Damage Suits.

"There is no better or quicker way considerable quantities without consideration," observes the Montgomery Messen ger, "than by suing for damages on every and any occasion where they see an op portunity to fleece those who have money. The slighest slip-up in the speech or the slightest delinquency on the part turers or proprietors becomes the basis time make \$20,000 wants that much for being slightly injured by some alleged negligence of others."

There is undoubtedly a class of people who are only too glad of an opportunity to bring suit for damages. They rush to the court upon the slightest pretext, and their wounds either of person or character are readily healed balm of a few dollars in damages.

But there is another side to the quer tion. It is not often that the courts will or a corporation unjustly, and usually in such cases the only cost to the person fees and incidental expenses of the suit. These expenses are considerable to United States, and while justice some times miscarries, the laws on this subject are a necessary protection to so

A Hint to Tax-Payers.

Usually the sins of the Virginia Legis ature are rather of commission than of is to be condemned more for leaving unit ought not to have done.

First of all, it failed to enact a general primary law, although there is a universal demand in the State for such

It falled to pass the bill providing for the establishment in Virginia of the Torrens land registry system.

It falled to pass the bill providing that the accounts of boards of supervisors be published from month to month in the county papers.

It failed to pass the bill to establish a uniform system of accounting in the State and county offices, and the inspection of public accounts.

There is a popular belief that the Tor-rens bill, the bill to have the accounts of supervisors published, and the bill to establish the inspection system were killed either through the direct or indirect influence of the officeholders. We cannot prove this, but there is good reason to believe it, and the taxpayers of the State should endeavor to ascertain if there is good ground for the charge.

The Worst Is Over.

In spite of the late decision of the United States Supreme Court in the Northern Securities case, the stock market did better yesterday, and the feeling generally was more confident. Street traders are pretty sharp, and they have doubtless good reason to believe tha the effect of the decision will not be disastrous to the great corporations of the country, as some have predicted. There are two good reasons for taking a hope ful view. First of all, the corporations have now been put on notice, and all of sound and satisfactory plan when the pressed satisfaction over the victory of the government and the administration as a prosecutor of trusts, suggested to a third that it would be better to have the plan threshed out in advance and submitted to the convention as seen as submitted to the convention as seen the street car tracks where the plan threshed out in advance and submitted to the convention as seen cision of the court probably would indicate.

What the pressity for the yloistion of the yloistion yloistic ylo

a more discriminating character than this rule will be is not stated in that now on the statute books, as contem-plained by the bill which he has recently

introduced in the Senate on this subject The worst is now known, and the con porations will adjust themselves to the new conditions. It is inconcelvable that the government will by drastic prosecution tear the whole business system to tatters.

Genuine Mocha.

Mr. C. T. Hilligias, a coffee merchant informs the St. Louis Globe-Democrat that there are not two hundred people in this country who have over tasted Mocha coffee, unless they have at some often all personal friends of many voters, | says the whole of the true Mecha crop riod of six months. The best berries where they are produced. The not of the governing class, and the poorest grades, which are not much to the people generally, and the demand

Mr. Ifilliglas admits that sometimes few pounds of the cheapest grade of Mocha find their way to Constantinople. but he is of the opinion that scarcely an ounce ever gets any further west than This information, we daresay, will

disabuse the minds of many amiable but deluded people, who think they have Mocha coffee regularly However, there are some other growth that seem to satisfy the human palate quite as well. If we all can't have Mocha, we can have other grades. Inaccordingly. As it now is, the whole deed, it is quite possible to do without coffee. Yes, possible-but not easy. are offered to the public as a substi tute for it, and some of them do very wholesomeness to coffee. However, I seems that the human appetite craves cuffic, or a substitute for it.

During the Confederate war coffee was After the first year it was practically unknown in the Confederate army, and none but the richest people at home could indulge themselves with it rious substitutes were used. Parched the articles most generally employed as used to give flavor to the cereal mixture The substitutes the people had for coffee were very pool and weak, and would be utterly despised now. It took a rich man then to furnish his table with Rio coffee-Mocha was not dreamed of! lependent upon luxuries, it is not impossible in emergencies to do without them But to return to Mocha. It is very cruel in Mr. Hillighas to disfilusion tho who have been enjoying "Mocha" coffee. If not genuine, it did them as much good as the genuine. However, they may at least comfort themselves with thought thas possibly Mr. Hilliglas is not as well informed on this subject as in agines that he is.

the New York Herald says the publication of the postal scandal report ha caused the greatest rumpus in the Republican party since the feud between Messrs. Blaine and Conkling. Efforts being made to involve President Roosevelt in the fuss, and no other topi is now discussed in Washington.

The effect of the publication of th correspondence of members of Cngress, he said, has reached every congressional etter to Beavers. "Unless the matter is reared up it will cost, perlaps, a hun dred members either their nominations or their elections, and there is a strained relation existing that bodes ill for harmenious action in the coming campagn.

The Fredericksburg Star says that the chief drawback to successful farming It is true that negro labor on farms is are learning to get along without it. and the more they learn, the better it will be for the farming interests of the entire South, certainly for the State of Virginia. We need more "little farms well tilled;" we need thousands of industrious farmers from other sections, who will come here and buy our waste lands and improve them and cultivate them with their own hands. The more of such farmers we get, the richer will the State become; and we sincerely hope that the advertisement which we shall get from the St. Louis Exposition, and later from the Jamestown Exposition, will go very far towards inducing a tide of desirable immigration.

The United States Senate committee, charged with the hearing of the Smoot case has done a commendable thing in prohibiting the presence there of young men and women. Hereafter all, under the age of twenty will be excluded from the committee room. Among those re-fused admission is Dr. Mary Walker. However, she was not "held up" because she was under twenty, but because she wrongfully sought admission as a mem-

ber of the press. Mary was held a prisoner of war in Richmond for a short time during the life of the Confederacy, and though her exact age is not of record, it will be impossible for her to plead successfully that she is under twenty.

Judge Gaynor, of New York, has decided that a wagon has no right to use street car tracks to the unnecessary obstruction of street cars. This, it is expected, will put a stop to one of the

Richmond Pearson Hobson is not egistored voter in Alabama, it appears And yet he is a candidate for Congress He did not have an opportunity to register under the "temporary plan," will do so when the registration books are again open. Meanwhile the State Democratic Committee has decided that Hobson's name may be placed on the primary election ticket. He is seeking to win the seat in the United States House of Representatives now held by Mr. Bankhead.

For years The Landmark has ridi-culed the free distribution of seeds, shrubs, etc., by the government as a farce.—Norfolk Landmark.

So have we. But in the spring, when we receive many neat packages of gar den seeds and flower seeds, it don't seem such a farce as it seemed when we received no speds. It does make a dif-

Some of our Northern contemporaries are now discussing the question: "Can a public school teacher individualize all his pupils?"

Hardly. He may individualize one of the girls, if he happens to be good looking and

The Baltimore Herald says that "after a sitting lasting nearly four years the Virginia Legislature is thinking of acjourning." The time has seemed rather long, but it has not been four years.

President Smith spoke very kindly of his wives. But it is to be considered that the season for new bonnets is fast approaching.

It is real discouraging when writing of the "harbingers of spring" to lookout the window and see the snow falling.

The company of the co When Senator Smoot hears his brethren testify it must make him feel like spelling his name backwards.

After the demonstration in Congres the other day, can it be said that the Prosident is in need of a hyena?

Russia may whip Japan, but she wil still have Tolstol on her hands.

It is fortunate that Senator Barksdale did not talk the whole Senate to death,

With a Comment or Two.

That's good. The Virginian-Pilot and Richmond Times-Dispatch have lately come to look upon Mr. Hearst as a "pos-sibility" for the presidential nomination. While both of these papers are strong anti-Hearst papers, we have failed to see published in their columns any good reason why Mr. Hearst should not be the standard bearer of the Democratic party in the approaching campaign.—Southamp-ton Democrat.

It is charged against Hearst that he is mmoral to beastliness, and he has never denied the charge. Such a man may be nominated, but he cannot be elected President of the United States.

In the opinion of the writer, the great-In the opinion of the writer, the greatest need, probably, of the town of South Boston at the present time is a permanent, effective organization or association of the business men for the purpose of undertaking concerted action in the interest of South Boston and its commerce. est of South Boston and its commerce.-Hallfax Gazette.

Is it possible that so progressive :

town as South Boston has no such organ-

A very erroneous impression has gotten out among the people in other towns to the effect that it was through the contivance of the people of this city that Kennedy was permitted to escape. There is no ground whatever for making such a charge against the people of Staunton.—Staunton Dispatch. Staunton Dispatch

Of course not. Staunton is incapable of such a thing.

In Lighter Vein.

State Chemist Walker, of Nebraska, after spending several weeks in analyzing tomato catsup and strawherry jam, states that only one brand of catsup was found which was made from tomatoes and was not artificially colored. Pumpkin was found to form the basis of all the others, and the coloring is attained by means of coal tar dyes. Alleged strawherry jam in a number of cases he found was made chiefly from pumpkin, colored y means of cases he found as made chiefly from pumpkin, colored ith coal far dyes and containing a pre-rivative in the form of berzole. Time-ny seed was also found to be an ingredient in some cases.

It is a wise leap year girl that looks carefully before she leaps.—Judge,

carefully before she leaps,—Judge.

It is rather curious that Lord Roberts, who has just retired, was only the eighteenth commandor in chief that the British army has had since the office was created, in 1674. This gives an average tenure of nearly thirteen years, which is a long time for any man to serve after working his way un to'so lofty a position. But at times the office has been vacant, and not all of the incumbents put their feet on all the rounds of the ladder. In earlier times the office was a perquisite of the great. Charles II, apointed his son, the Duke of Monmouth, who was later behended. He was followed by the Duke of Mariborough. Lord Wellington was the fifteenth in succession, if reappointments be counted.

"And has your hisband given up anything for Lent?" asked Mrs. Girlbride, as she pushed her veil up and settled back in her chair.

"Yes," replied Mrs. Suburba. "he has given up going to church."

"But that is hardly what one would call denying oneself!" exclaimed Mrs. Girlbride.

"But that call denying oneself!" exclaimed Girlbride.
"Oh it is in Henry's case," replied Mrs. Suburba, mentally calculating what her visitor's hat cost, "for he can't sleen nearly as comfortably in his chair at home as in his pew."—Cincinnat Times.

"This," said the agent, "Is the coziest little flat in Harlen."
"Yes?" ropled the man.
"Oh, there's no dount about that at all."
"That's so, there isn't any room for doubt, is there?"—Philadelphia Press.

South Boston Sorts.

South Boston Sorts.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

SOUTH BOSTON, VA. March 15.—Five
fine cows belonging to Mr. Alex. Bruce
were killed by No. 8 passenger train about
one-half mile above this place Saturday
morning about 11:30 colock. It is reported that when the conductor asked the
engineer why he don't stop, he repiled
that the railroad company would lave
to make another schedule for him. If cows
were going to run on the same line.

Mr. Wallace Ingram a popular young
man of the Flag warehouse, of this
place, is quite sick at the home of his
parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Ingram. He
is threatened with typhold pneumonia.

BALFOUR IS DEFEATED

But Government Rallies in Few Minutes and Premier Does Not Resign

IT WAS THE IRISH'S COUP

The Government's Forces Were Swapping Until Extras Appeared on Streets.

(By Associated Press.)

LONDON, March 15 .- Premier Balfour's government to-day was defeated in the louse of Commons by the combined Liberal and Nationalist vote. This reerse was due to the prohibition by Mr Wyndham, chief secretary for Ireland of the teaching of the Gaelle in the junior grades of the Irish Nationalist schools. Mr.' Balfour, though defeater does not regard the vote us one of wan

The failure of the government to carry the House with 4t on a question of purely administrative policy in its Irish department is generally admitted to greatly weaken its already warning prestige with the country, atthough it is not thought probable that any immediate development

vill ensue. "Those terrible Irish," as they are de "Those terrible Irish," as they are described for the imbment by the Unionists, were entirely responsible for Mr. Baifour's defeat. On the question of Catholic education, Monday night, the Nationalists had voted with the Urionist government, but even while so doing, they were planning the downfall of the Conservatives. This afternoon the mine so ingeriously inid was so; off with success that thrilled the country. The strategy with which the whole coup was planned and the scenes that marked its culmination recalled the times when Gladstone and Parnell waged a Titanic strug

MURKY TRANQUILITY,

When the House of Commons met at 2
o'clock this afternoon the metropolis was
stoeped in its usual murky tranquility.
Seattered throughout the clubs, hotels and
restaurants, the Unionist commoners languidly discussed the war news and everything else except politics. In this serenity of the luncheon hour, hordes of nowspaper boys suddenly appeared yelling "the
government defeated."

The early afternoon papers only gave
the figures of the voting on division, and
readers were lost to guess whether or
not the givernment had resigned. A wild
rush was made for the House of Commons, and many elderly members ran
half a mile or more while others drove
recklessly to Westminster.

Within the House of Commons itself
strange scenes were being enacted. The
House had resolved itself into a committee of supply to discuss the vote for
Irish clucation, which had already been
debated. John Recmond made a compaint about the pronibition of Gaelle in
the schools, but instead of a long speech,
which it would seem he had prepared,
judging from the volume of notes in his
hand, the Irish leader said only a few
words. Mr. Wyndham repiled with equal
brovity and it was evident he was saving
himself for a string of protests from other
Irish members.

The treasury bench was deserted, save

The treasury bench was deserted, save for the chief secretary for Ireland and three of his junior colleagues, and barely twenty supporters of the government were in their places. Mr. Balfour chatted merrily in the spectators gallery with a friend. Then the boit fell.

No one rose to reply to Mr. Wyndham, the Irish party for once utilizing silence as its deadlest weapon. Ar. Redmond had said there were to be no speeches, and, though the rank and file of the Nationalists did not know the reason, not having been admitted to the secret plan and, though the rank and file of the Nationalists did not know the reason, not having been admitted to the secret plan set on foot the previous evening by their, leader and their chief whip, they obeyed implicitly. Discipline triumphed, and not one word came from the Irish benches. The Liceraits too, sat silent, though they were ignorant of the projected coup, and without a reply a division was inevitable. Only then did Mr. Wynchain and the government whips realize how deliberately they had been outwitted.

GET DESPERATE.

In desperation the government whips sent messengers in cabs and with telegrams and to the telephones, but without avail, for when the tellers of the voto returned the clerk of the House handed Sir Thomas Esmonds the covated little silp of paper which is given to the winning side.

In a second the members who had crowded in realized that the government had been beaten, and then there drose such a cheer as Westminster has not heard for many a day. The Irish and Liberai members clambered upon the benches and yelled themselves hoarse, and for perity five many the cand for perity five mining state.

heard for many a day. The Irish and Liberal members clambered upon the benches and yelled themselves hoarse, and for nearly live minutes pandemonlum reigned. Several times Sir Thomas 25-monde tried to rad out the figures, but his voice was drowned in the uproar. Mr., Balfour, who had been just in time to vote for the government, sat smiling grimly. Finally there was comparative dulet, and Sir Thomas Esmonde read: "Ayes, 14!; noes, 130." At this the storm of cheering broke out afresh. The government was defeated by eleven votes. A rush to the lobby followed, and the members animatedly discussed whether or not Mr. Balfour would resign. The premier, however, quickly set these doubts at rest by saying that he six no reason for such action. Thanks to the prolonged exuberance of the Irish cheers and the heatering of Mr. Balfour, the government wips got the chance of summoning their absent supporters and when, about ten minutes later. John Redmond moved to report progress on the ground that the government had not a majority able to transact the business of the country, the government secured the narrow majority of twenty-five.

If the division had occurred a few minutes earlier the government inevitably would have been defeated and compelled to resign.

SPLENDID REUNION. (Continued From First Page.)

(Continued From First Page.)

"The United States." He was humorous, pathetic and eloquent in depicting the past and present of the V. M. I. and in forecasting a still more glorious future. He regretted he had not been an old cadet and declared he had never known one not to measure up to the highest standard in the struggle of life.

Coming to the subject assigned him, Major Daniel said;
"I drink to the United States, from Porto Rice all the way to the Phillippine Islands: the United States of America, destined some day to become the United States of the world."

When the outburst which greeted this sentence had subsided, Senator Daniel said that was his conception of the prosent and future of this country, and he hoped the young Virginia Military Irstitute of to-day would be on the earth to see it.

"If the United States learned to respect the Soldiers the Virginia Military Institute sent forth in early days she had been developed to you the boys who bear

"If the United States learned to respect the soldiers the Virginia Military Institute sent forth in early days she has learned to love the boys who bear her commissions to-day.
"The dream of the world is peace." he quoted: "the history of the world is yer," and he world the necessity of an

army which the nations of the world doubt fear so greatly that none would dare break the peace. Should fromble ever come the United States would have no more loyal sens than those turned out from a school whose boys vere led by a Scott Shipp at New Market, a school which had given Stonewall Jackson to the world.

Secretary Taft Next.

Secretary Taft Next.

There was prelonged applause when Senator Daniel concluded.

Judge Wood then introduced Secretary. Taft.

The Secretary said it was a mixed pleasure to be present—first, because it was his duty as head of the War Department to encourage such a military school as the Virginia Military Institute it was an honor to assemble with alumnlof a school which had turned out such distinguished men, and finally it was a pleasure to a man of New Ergland blood to meet such loyal Americans, some of whom had had such "variegated experiences" as those of which Senator Daniel spoke.

spoke, Secretary Tall said that when he was Secretary Taft said that when he was judge of the Sixth Federal Circuit Court he used to sit with two other judges, one of whom had followed Morgan, and the other Forrest. One day an old follow came into the consulting room of the court, and asked Judge Lurton If he had not served under John Morgan. The judge gave an affirmative answer.

"And you burned the bridge across French Creek out here, didn't you?" asked the old follow. "I think we did," said the judge. "Wall, the war is oversure enough, ain't It?" exclaimed the old min.

long ago. He said he had come to he a profound sympathy for the people Kentucky and Tennessee, which Sta were in his district, and that he had disregard States' rights and decide in fa-vor of the national government. The vor of the national government. The Secretary said he was not a soldier, and described how when on his way home from the Philippines in January he ind been invited by Japanese officers at Yokohama to inspect a crack regiment. He had assured them he was satisfied it was all right.

Secretary Taft then alluded to the great improvement in the organization of the army offected by the creation of the general staft, "it is not to be expected that from West Point we are to get all our officers," he said, "and we should do everything possible to encourage such schools as yours.

Wants It to Prosper.

Wants It to Prosper.

Wants It to Prosper.

"It is the part of wisdom to encourage a school with such a grand history as the V. M. I." he said, "and no man who loves his country could wish the school anything but the very greatest measure of prosperity." There was prolonged appliance when Secretary Tatt concluded, which was renewed when Attorney-General Anderson was introduced.

Major Anderson spoke of the work the institute had done for the country in peace and war. He is not an alumnus, but has lived in sight of the institute for many years. He said he did not believe any institution in this country had turned out a finer body of men.

Speaking of the old cadets in war and their loyalty since, Major Anderson said: "You can't trust the man who has been

their loyalty since. Major Anderson said:
"You can't trust the man who has been
false to the old love to be true to the
now." a sentiment which evoked thunderous applause. There was applause and
cheering at many points in the speech,
which was one of the best of the evening.
"The old cadet in the Spanish War"
was the sentiment to which LieutenantGovernor Willard was to respond, but he
said he would not confine himself to that,
and he made-a humerous, catchy talk
of three or four minutes, which provoked
much laughter and applause.

V. M. I. of the Past.

Mr. J. R. Anderson, of Richmond, read an exceedingly valuable paper on the V. M. I. In the past, showing what the old cadets had accomplished in the world. Mr. Alexander Hamilton, of Petersburg, president of the board of visitors, talked in a general way of the school, its work in the past and hopes for the future.

"The West Point Military Academy is the finest training school in the world for efficers," he said; "the V. M. I. is second."
General Scott Shipp, superintendent of the V. M. I., had to get up in response

an old endet, spoke briefly, as did one or two others.

It was considerably after midnight when the association broke up. The banquet was in every way a brilliant success, and the members of the chapter feel that much of the credit is due to I. H. Saunders, the secretary; D. M. Lee and D. L. Waring, all of whom have worked unceasingly in trying to make the occasion a memorable one.

THE BLUES INSPECTED.

The Battalion Had Full Ranks and Made a Fine Showing.

and Made a Fine Showing.

The Richmond Light Infantry Blues' Battallon were inspected at their airmory last night by Captain William Johnson. of Fort Myer. Va., U. S. A.

The battalion was formed promptly at \$1.30. attired in sorvice uniform, in heavy marching order, together with all accountements, and presented a splendid appearance. After the order, "Prepare for inspection," Captain Johnson, assisted by Major Cheatwood, commenced inspection of arms and equipment. When this had been completed the manual of arms was gone through with, after which platoon drills and extended order followed, all of which were up to a high standard.

dirilis and extended order followed all of which were up to a high standard. The Mitendance was most gratifying to the officers of the command, there being absent only four men in Company A and three inen in Company B... Quite a large number of spectators were present. Company A lad sixty men in ranks and Company A lad sixty men in ranks and Company B skry-three men.

Captain Johnson expressed himself as being greatly pleased with the showing made by the battailon, and found the accoutrements to be in splendid condition. He stated that the equipment was in first-class order for field service.

This inspection was made in order that the War Department might be informed as to the condition of the National Guard. It is said that the report of Captain Johnson will have great hearing on the question whether or not the National Guard will be allowed the appropriation for the annual encampment next summer under the recent 'Dick bill.'

There will he no regular drill for either company of the battailon this week.

Mrs. Battle Improving. Rev. Dr. H. W. Battle, of Greenshoro, ormerly of Petersburg, writes to friends ere that Mrs. Battle, who has been so it, is improving, and the physicians exect her complete recovery.

Business Meeting, Too. The monthly business meeting of manuel Baptist Church, postponed f Monday night, will be held after prayer meeting to-night,

Eye-Glasses Astray A pair of rimless eye-glasses are astray somewhere around town, and the owner is anxious to recover them. He asks the finder to leave them at The Times-Dispatch office.

Engagement Announced.



Curse

White Ribbon Remedy



Mrs. A. M. TOWNSENDVise every far a slave to the drink evil to give Ribbon Remedy at noise. It has a thousands of permanent cures, and the training the nerves, increasing the will determination to remediate the state of the st

dorsed by Members of a W. C. T. U.

TRAGLE DRUG CO.,

\$17 East Broad Street. Mail Orders Filled.

THE PHIS BANQUET.

Richmond Alumni Club Gather Around the Board.

Around the Board.

The twenty-fifth annual banquet of the Richmond Alumni Club of the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity, held at Ruegor's last night, was a great success and was greatly onlying the present.

The table was decorated with white carnations, the fraternity's flower, and one of Ruegor's best menus was partaken of. Mr. George Bryan, president of the club, presided as toasimaster, and in most presided as toasimaster. In the fine country of the Ministry. Rev. Thomas Men. Simpson, D. D.; "The Bench and Bar, Hon. Conway R. Sands; "The Medical Profession." Dr. Clifton M. Miller; "The Business World," Robert L. Powers and Maivern C. Patierson, "Robert Morrison," D. D., the Author of Our Bond," Captain Harry, L. Walson, president of Beta Province; "Sweethearts and Wives," Dr. Greer Baughman.

After the banquet a short business sea-

Mainth L. D. Lie Author of Our Bond." Captain Harry L. Watson, president of Beita Province; "Sweethearts and Wives," Dr. Greer Baughman.
After the banquet a short business seasion was held for the election of officers for the ensuing year.
Those present were: Greer Baughman, George Bryan, Dr. Matt O. Burke, William A. Chambers, Bernard R. Guest, John A. Lancaster, John P. Lea, Dr. Clifton M. Miller, Frank W. Minor, Mailvern C. Patterson, Robert L. Powers, Dr. M. Pierce Rucker, Hon. Conway R. Sands, Rev. Thomas Mo. Simpson, Dr. Frank W. Upshur, Edwurd P. Valentine, Harry L. Watson, Wins F. Wilson and H. N. Blakeney, of the Randolph-Macon chapter of the trateralty.

Talent Service To-night.

The talent service at the Third Presby-terian Church to-night promises to be both unique and interesting. About two months ago one dollar was given to each of 100 latties as a tulent. The results of the use of these will be reported to-nigi Ray. Dr. F. T. McFaden will make the

NEGRO MURDERED FOR THE FEW CENTS HE HAD

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
TRUITT, VAL. March 15.—The dead
body of a negro youth, eighteen years
old, was found in a pasture north of
this place yesterday by some children.
The youth had been dead several days
and had evidently been murdered for a
small sum of money, as he was known
to have had some little money when last
seen. When found the money was gone.
Suspicion points strongly to two of his
companions, as when last seen all three
were together, and the two companions
were immediately arrested, and will be
given a hearing in a magistrace's court.
Miss Florence Ridout and Mr. E. B.
Parson will be married to-morrow at
3. P. M. at Concord Church by the Rey.

D. Falkner. The bride-elect is the popular young the bride-elect is the popular young daughter of Mr. B. J. Ridout, a pros-perous farmer near here, and the groom is a prosperous young farmer of Pleasant, Vo.

ENORMOUS TRACT OF FLORIDA LAND SOLD

(By Associated Press.)

LAKE CITY, FLA., March 15.—A land sale involving \$20,000 was concluded to-day, the land in question, consisting of 40,000 acres in Taylor county, They were sold by J. P. Williams to J. S. Betts and Coppnay, of Ashburg, J. sold by J. P. Williams to J. S. Betts and Company, of Ashburn, Ga., for \$6 per acre. The entire amount was paid in cash. Betts and Company are among the leading lumber manufacturing companies in the South, having already large tracts of land in Georgia, and two mills in that State that cut 100,000 feet of lumber per day. They will, in the near future, put s large saw mill on the land they have just purchased.

PEONAGE CASES BEFORE UNITED STATES JUDGE

(By Associated Press.)

SAVANNAH. GA. March 15.—Judge Emory Speer, in the United States Court, to-day overruled demurrers in the peonage cases against ex-Sheriff McClellan and Attorney Crawley, of Ware county, and ordered the cases to trial. The demurrers were based on constitutional grounds, denying the jurisdiction of the Federal Court, and asserting the competency of the State courts to take any needed action. Judge Speer held the act of Congress covering the Matter to be constitutional, and that his court had jurisdiction. His decision directed that the defondants be brought forward to plead and stand trial.

Manchester Mills Not to Close,

(By Associated Press.) MANCHESTER, ENG., March 15.—At a meeting of Lancashire cotton spinners here to-day it was resolved to continue on short time at the mills, working only forty hours each week until further notice. The meeting rejected a proposal to close the mills for one month.

For Inspection of Lumber,

(By Associated Press.)

JACKSONVILLE, Pl.A., March 15.—
The Georgia interstate Saw-Mill Association, composed of millmen from Georgia, Florida and Alukama, met here to-day and adopted new rules for the inspection of lumber that will so into effect on the first of July. The only other husiness consisted of the appointment of a number of committees.